



SYN 09/025,895

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: WAGNER Examiner: E. NICHOLSON
Serial No.: 09/025,895 Group Art Unit: 3629
Filed: FEBRUARY 18, 1998 Docket No.: 758.748US01
Title: U-BOLT CLAMP FOR SEALING LAP JOINTS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 5, 2000.

By: Michelle A. Read
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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 4, 2000, please amend the above-referenced application as follows.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1-6, 8-9, 12-13 and 16 as follows:

- b1
1. (Twice Amended) A clamp comprising:
a saddle member having a concave saddle portion;
a U-bolt mounted on the saddle member, the U-bolt having a concave portion oriented opposed to the saddle member concave saddle portion; and
[a first] at least one shim positioned between the U-bolt and the saddle member, the [first] shim being made of metal and forming substantially a full cylinder at least when the saddle member and the U-bolt are drawn completely together.
 2. (Amended) The clamp of claim 1, wherein the [first] at least one shim has a width that is greater than a width of the U-bolt.